

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 have been amended in order to write these claims in the appropriate U.S. claim format.

Claim 13 has been canceled.

Claims 14-26 have been added by the foregoing amendments. Support for claims 15-19 occurs, for example, at page 12, lines 14-18 of the specification. Support for claims 20-26 occurs, for example, at page 14, line 26 to page 15, line 4 of the specification.

Claims 1-12 and 14-26 remain in the application.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the instant amendment. The marked-up version is entitled "Version With Markings To Show Changes Made".

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 6, 2002

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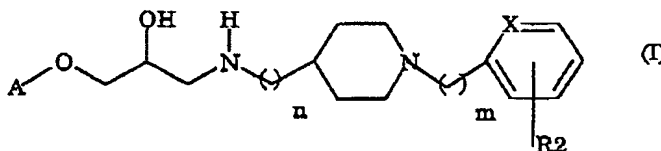
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Version With Markings to Show Changes MadeIn the Claims:

Claims 1-11 have been amended as follows:

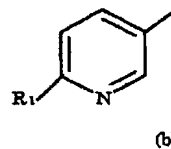
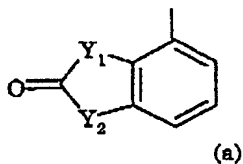
1. (amended) A compound of formula (I):



where

X is N or CH;

A represents a group of formula (a) or (b)



R_1 represents a hydrogen atom or an $-NH_2$, $-NR_3R_4$, $-NR_3CO(C_1-C_4)Alk$ or $-NR_3SO_2(C_1-C_4)Alk$ group;

R_2 represents a hydrogen or halogen atom or a $(C_1-C_4)Alk$, $(C_1-C_4)alkoxy$, $-COOH$, $-COO$ $(C_1-C_4)Alk$, $-CN$, $-CONR_3R_4$, $-NO_2$, $-SO_2NR_3R_4$ or $-NHSO_2(C_1-C_4)Alk$ group;

m and n each represent 0, 1 or 2;

R_3 and R_4 each represent a hydrogen atom or a $(C_1-C_4)Alk$ group;

Y_1 and Y_2 each represent NH or O;

~~and their salts or solvates~~ or a salt or solvate thereof.

2. (amended) The A compound as claimed in claim 1, where X represents CH.

3. (amended) ~~The~~ A compound as claimed in claim 1, where X represents a nitrogen atom and the R_2 group is in the 5-position.

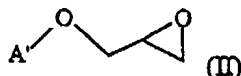
4. (amended) The A compound as claimed in claim 1, where the (C₁-C₄)Alk group is a methyl or ethyl group.

5. (amended) The A compound as claimed in claim 1, where R₂ is chosen from -COOH, -COO(C₁-C₄)Alk, -CN, -NO₂, -CONR₃R₄ and -NHSO₂-(C₁-C₄)Alk.

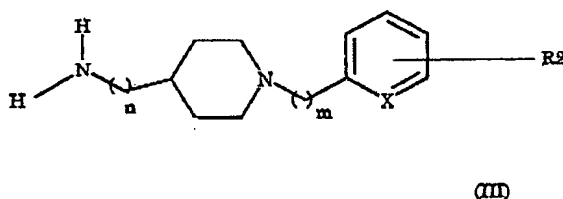
6. (amended) 3-[1-(5-Ethoxycarbonylpyrid-2-yl)-4-piperidinylamino]-1-(1,2-dihydro-2-oxobenzimidazol-4-yloxy)-2-propanol ~~and its salts or solvates~~ or a salt or solvate thereof.

7. (amended) 3-[1-(5-Ethoxycarbonylpyrid-2-yl)-4-piperidinylamino]-1-[2-aminopyrid-5-yloxy]-2-propanol ~~and its salts or solvates~~ or a salt or solvate thereof.

8. (amended) A process for the preparation of the compound of claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein an epoxide of formula (II):



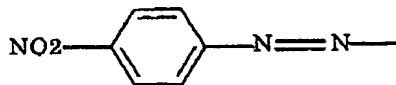
in which A' represents the group (a) or the group (b) in which R₁ is optionally protected, where (a), (b) and R₁ are as defined in claim 1, is reacted with an amine of formula (III)



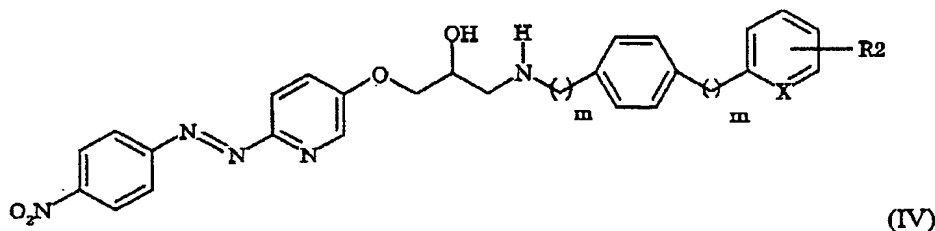
where m, n, R₂ and X are as indicated above, the protective group optionally present is removed and, optionally, the product of formula (I) thus obtained is converted into one of its salts or solvates.

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9. (amended) A process for the preparation of the compound of claim 1 where A represents a group (b) and R₁ is an NH₂ group, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a product of formula (II) as defined in claim 8 where A' is the group (b) and R₁ is a group of formula:

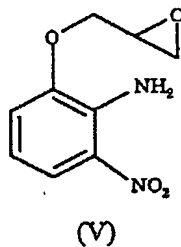


is reacted with an amine of formula III and the product of formula IV thus obtained:



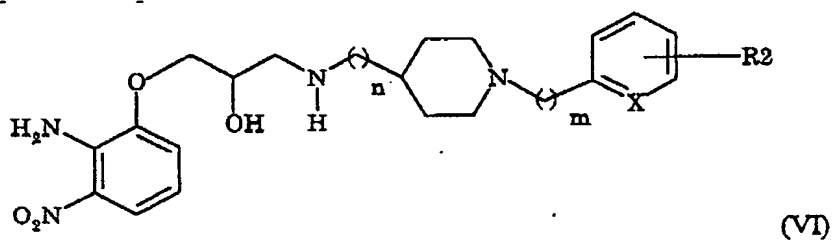
is subjected to a hydrogenation reaction in order to convert the 4-nitrophenyldiazenyl group to an amino group and, optionally, the product of formula (I) thus obtained is converted into one of its salts or solvates.

10. (amended) A process for the preparation of the compound of claim 1 where A represents the group (a) and Y₁ and Y₂ represent a nitrogen atom, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a compound of formula (V):

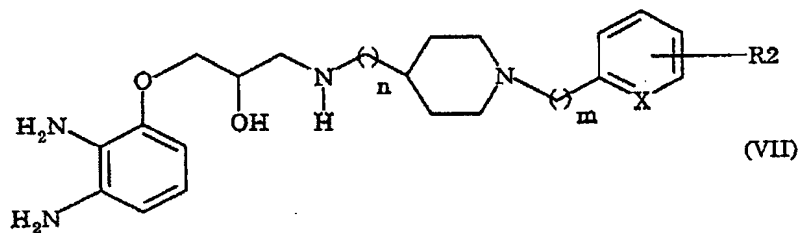


is reacted with a compound of formula (III) as defined in claim 8, the nitro group of the product of formula (VI) thus obtained:

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is reduced, the product of formula (VII) thus obtained:



is treated with a carbonylation agent, the product of formula (I) thus obtained is isolated and, optionally, is converted into one of its salts or solvates.

11. (amended) ~~The A~~ process as claimed in claim 10, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the carbonylation agent is chosen from carbonyldiimidazole and phosgene.

Claim 13 has been canceled.

Claims 14-26 have been added.

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